

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph on page 1, line 1 as follows:

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--The present application is a continuation-in-part of Patent Application Serial No. 09/457,104 (~~attorney file number 4154-9~~) filed December 7, 1999, incorporated herein by reference. Cross reference is made to U.S. Patent Application No.: 09/315,398 entitled Removable Optical Storage Device and System, filed May 20, 1999, ~~further identified as Attorney Docket 4154-1~~, and to U.S. Patent Application No. No.: 60/140,633 entitled Combination Mastered and Writeable Medium and Use in Electronic Book Internet Appliance, filed June 23, 1999, ~~further identified as Attorney Docket 4154-2 PROV.~~--

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Please amend the paragraph on page 23, line 23 as follows:

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-- Figs. 24A and 24B are graphs depicting the magnitude of the FES_A and FES_B signals 2402a, 2402b, respectively, as a function of the magnitude or degree of focus at the medium. In one aspect, focus can be expressed as the distance 1862 (e.g. in micrometers) of the objective lens from the information layer 1870 ~~1864~~ of the medium 1856. One effect of providing different distances 2310, 2312 for the focal points 2306, 2308 of the first and second beams 2302, 2304 is that the configuration of the FES signals from the two detectors 2201, 2204, as a function of focus are different, e.g. as can be seen by comparing Figs. 24A and 24B. Each of the individual FES signals 2402a, 2402b is substantially non-linear (highly curved) in the regions 2406a, 2406b near the desired or nominal focus. Such non-linearity makes it relatively difficult and/or inaccurate to use either of the focus error signals FES_A , FES_B alone, as a control signal for controlling focus. However, as depicted in Fig. 25, when the negative or inverse 2404 of the FES_B signal 2402b is combined with the FES_A signal 2402a, the resultant combined focus error signal $FES_A - FES_B$ 2502 is substantially linear in a capture range 2504 located about the nominal focus point 2506. Thus, the differential scheme as depicted, providing two different focus point distances, 2310, 2312 (in the depicted embodiment, both on the same side of the detector plane 2314) can assist in providing a substantially linear differential focus error signal, at least in a capture region 2504 which can be used for controlling a focus motor or actuator. In one embodiment, the capture region is the region within ± 10 micrometers of the nominal focus. In one embodiment, the combined focus error signal $FES_A - FES_B$ 2502 has a maximum departure from linearity (e.g. departure

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from a best-fit linearity) at any point within the capture region of less than about 10 %, preferably less than about 2 %.--

Please amend the paragraph on page 26, line 23 as follows:

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-- Fig. 14 depicts an embodiment of the invention in which the detector 1412 is positioned outwardly of the mirror block 332. In this embodiment the PBS 1424 is positioned and configured to substantially reflect the light 1426 received from the laser source 1428 to a horizontal path 1432. The light is then reflected to a vertical path 1434 toward the objective 312 by a reflective surface 1438. The reflected light returns along a similar path 1434, 1432, but, having a changed polarization, is transmitted through the PBS 1424 along a horizontal path 1442, to be reflected downward 1444 toward the detector 1412 by a reflective surface 1446. In one embodiment the undersurface of the optics block 326' in the region surrounding the path of the reflected beam 1444 is coated with an absorptive coating, such as non-reflective (black) chrome, to assist in protecting the detector 1412 from stray light. In one embodiment, an annular reflective coating is positioned on the lower surface of the optics block 326' surrounding the position of the central portion of the beam 1426 in order to reflect the outermost annular portion of the beam downward 1450 1446 to a feedback detector 1448 for controlling laser power. Other regions can be coated with absorptive or reflective coatings for controlling stray light, as will be clear to those of skill in the art after understanding the present disclosure.--